

club is revered in the annals of rowing, and for 125 years it has been a staple of the Wyandotte community, encouraging the citizens of Southeastern Wayne County to flourish physically, mentally and morally.

The Wyandotte Boat Club is located on the Detroit River, approximately 15 miles "downriver" of Detroit. It was formed in 1875 when a group of Wyandotte men, led by Mr. John McKnight, officially organized and together purchased a ten-oar barge. The first home of the club was at the foot of Pine Street in a shed behind the summer home of a resident of Wyandotte. And though the club has come a very long way since this time, in a literal manner it has not moved an inch, for on January 14, 1997, the club moved back to the foot of Pine Street, into a state of the art, multi-million dollar facility.

The boat club has come to play a very large role in the lives of Wyandotte citizens. Its more than 700 members assist in the coaching, maintenance and administration of the club's activities and regattas. They teach rowing programs to individuals of all ages. Furthermore, in the mid 1940's, the club began to sponsor a program offering rowing to area high school students. In its 50 plus years, the program has now expanded to include elementary and middle school students as well as high school students. The school programs are open to all students and there is no charge to the student or the school for participation. Many of the high school oarsmen who have participated in the program have become known both nationally and internationally as top competitors in the rowing arena.

Mr. President, I applaud the members of the Wyandotte Boat Club for the many beneficial things they do for the citizens of Wyandotte on a daily basis. In particular, to sponsor rowing for children of all ages, which not only provides these children with a lifelong hobby, but also helps to teach them some of life's most basic and important lessons. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate the Wyandotte Boat Club on 125 successful years, and wish the group continued success in the future.●

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC BOATING SOCIETY

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of The Antique and Classic Boat Society (ACBS), which will be celebrated from September 21-24, 2000, at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, Michigan. For 25 years, the ACBS has united individuals with an interest in historic, antique and classic boats, allowing them to share fellowship, information, and experiences.

The ACBS is an international organization headquartered on the St. Law-

rence River in the Thousand Islands region of Clayton, New York. It currently has 44 chapters worldwide, and a membership of over 6,500 individuals. The organization was founded not only to unite individuals with an interest in antique and classic boats, but also to protect and promote the heritage of boating. It does this through the preservation and restoration of historic boats, as well as by encouraging members to share their love and enjoyment of all aspects of historic, antique and classic boating with both other members and the general public.

I think it is important to note here the large role that the State of Michigan has played in the growth and development of the recreational boating industry. Beginning as early as the 1920's, and continuing through the 1970's, the four most recognized American boat builders were headquartered in Michigan: Chris Craft in Algonac; Gar Wood in Marysville; Hacker Craft in Mount Clemens; and Century in Manistee. Thus, I think that it is only right that the 25th Anniversary of the Antique and Classic Boat Society be celebrated in the Water Wonderland State of Michigan.

Mr. President, I applaud the ACBS for having grown into the world's largest organization dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of historic, antique and classic boats, a fact which pays tribute to the many people who have devoted themselves not only to promoting the heritage of boating, but also to promoting the ACBS and the many wonderful things it does to preserve this heritage. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate the Antique and Classic Boat Society on its 25th Anniversary, and wish the organization continued success in the future.●

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. PATRICIA JANKOWSKI

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, on August 25, 2000, Mrs. Patricia Jankowski of Garden City, Michigan, took office as National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars at the organization's 87th National Convention. On September 23, 2000, there will be a Homecoming celebration in her honor at the Marriott Hotel in the Detroit Renaissance Center, and I rise today to offer my congratulations to Mrs. Jankowski as she returns to Michigan.

Mrs. Jankowski is a Life Member of Northville Auxiliary #4012. Since becoming a member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW, she has been actively involved on all levels of the organization. She has served served as Auxiliary President, District #4 President, and in 1990-91 was selected the Outstanding President of the Year in her membership group when she served as State President.

On the national level, Mrs. Jankowski has served as National Flag Bearer, National Cancer Aid and Research Director, and National Director for the VFW National Home program. As a member of Blazette Color Guard for five years, she holds two Bronze and one Silver Medal for competition at National VFW Convention. In 1989, she earned National Aide-de-Camp status for recruiting members. And just last year, as National Senior Vice-President, she represented the Auxiliary on a tour of Europe.

Mrs. Jankowski's election to this national office is the highlight of a career dedicated to public service. During her term in office, she will encourage fellow members to raise \$3 million for the Auxiliary Cancer Aid and Research Fund for the 13th consecutive year, with her ultimate goal being to top all previous program records.

Mr. President, I applaud Mrs. Jankowski for the wonderful work that she has done for the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW. Her supreme dedication to that cause and her unending desire to help our Nation's veterans is both admirable and inspirational. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate Mrs. Jankowski on taking office as National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and wish her great success as she leads this outstanding organization.●

DEPUTY CHIEF CHARLES L. BIDWELL CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Deputy Chief Charles L. Bidwell of the Brighton, Michigan, Area Fire Department, who will be honored for 50 years of fire service to the City of Brighton at a dinner on September 19, 2000.

Deputy Chief Bidwell has been an active or on-call firefighter since September 14, 1950. He spent his entire career with the City of Brighton Fire Department until July 1, 1998, when the City of Brighton Fire Department and the Brighton Township Fire Department merged to form the Brighton Area Fire Department.

Deputy Chief Bidwell is retired from the General Motors Proving Grounds in Milford, Michigan. He has held the position of Deputy Chief since 1988, and remains one of the most active members of the Brighton Area Fire Department. For the past decade, he has led the department in alarm response.

From June 27, 1994 until January 15, 1995, Mr. Bidwell acted as interim Chief of the City of Brighton Fire Department. He was named the City of Brighton's Firefighter of the Year in 1987, and, at the annual conference of the Michigan State Firemen's Association in Ludington earlier this year, he was selected as Michigan's Firefighter of